

**PATENT** 5181-63600/P4992

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

999999999999

Application No.:

09/659,915

Filed:

September 11, 2000

Inventors:

Thomas E. Saulpaugh

Gregory L. Slaughter

Eric Pouyoul

Michael J. Duigou

Title:

Automatic Lease Renewal

with Message Gates in a

Distributed Computing

Environment

Examiner:

Fisher, Michael J.

Group/Art Unit:

3629

Atty. Dkt. No:

5181-63600

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below. .

Robert C. Kowert

Name of Registered Representative

June 28, 2004 Date

## RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF **MARCH 26, 2004**

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 RECEIVED

JUL 1 4 2004

GROUP 3600

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action of March 26, 2004, to further highlight why the application is in condition for allowance.